

APRN Certification Extension/Waiver Policies — COVID-19 Update

As of April 16, 2020 – 1:30 PM (CST)

The following information was obtained through communication with the certifying bodies.

Certifying Body	Certification(s) Granted	Extension Policy		
Certifying Body		Renewal	First Time Test Takers	
AACN Contact: APRNcert@aacn.org	AACNS-AG AACNS-P AACNS- N ACNPC-AG	Extensions for the renewal of the APRN licenses during the crisis will be considered on a case by case basis in partnership with the boards of nursing (BONs). Reactivation of retired APRN licenses during the crisis would be considered on a case by case basis in partnership with the BONs.	Extension from 90 days to 180 days, applicants will be notified when they apply. An email will be sent to the BON confirming eligibility to test.	
AANPCB Contact: certification@aanpcert.org	A-GNP-C FNP-C ENP-C	Allow for a temporary certification extension of 120 days for those certificants having to take the exam for recertification or having difficulty obtaining continuing education credits due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Will work with the BONs for those who have been approved to take the exam and meet the qualifications for certification but not yet tested.	
AMCB Contact Us	CNM	Renewal annually in December, no extension offered currently.	3 month extension of eligibility period for anyone who completes their program between March 1–May 31. Will submit a letter of eligibility to BON which would verify that a candidate has met the requirements to sit for the exam but has not yet sat (or passed).	
ANCC Verify Certification Renewal Requirements	PMHNP-BC FNP-BC AGCNP-BC AGPCNP-BC AGCNS-BC	Clinicians who have not yet applied for recertification and have a recertification date from March 1–July 1, 2020 the expiration date will automatically extend to July 31, 2020. Clinicians who have already submitted renewal documents will continue to be reviewed. Clinicians who want to renew can continue to do so. The clinician does not need to take action. We are in the process of notifying clinicians and the individual state BON. ANCC Certification COVID-19 FAQ's are found here.	ABSNC approved ANCC's application to deliver its examinations via remote proctoring (LRP). Clinicians will be informed of this option. ANCC will work with the state BON to provide verification of eligibility to test. Clinicians who had a test date will be able reschedule. All eligible clinicians are provided a 120-day testing window.	
NBCRNA Contact Us	CRNA	Renewal deadline for this year will be extended by four months (from July 31 to Nov. 30, 2020). Credentials due to be renewed this year by the old July 31, 2020 deadline, which are not renewed on or before the revised Nov. 30, 2020 deadline, will expire and will be lapsed and BONs will be notified.	Will continue to electronically provide letters to BONs indicating candidates have met certification requirements and have been initially certified.	

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		Renewal	First Time Test Takers
NCC Contact Us	WHNP-BC NNP-BC	NCC has a 12-month recertification period for anyone who has allowed their certification to lapse. This has not changed due to the pandemic.	New testing windows begin May 1, 2020, extended through July 30, 2020 for anyone who registered but had not tested. Candidates must register for the NCC exam and provide the required documents to be deemed eligible. If eligible NCC will inform the appropriate state board. NCC will send eligibility letters to BONs in states with emergency certification waivers.
PNCB Contact Us	CPNP-PC CPNP-AC	PNCB has a 4-month recertification period that ended Feb. 29, 2020. This has not changed due to the pandemic.	If the candidate has a complete application, which includes a final transcript with all grades and the degree, PNCB is holding their eligibility notification until testing centers open. This avoids the 90-day window limit to schedule an exam.